

## Lesson 8: Fanogonogo – Listen

12/09/2012 Wednesday

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❖ **Tangi:** Fakaalofa lahi atu ki a mutolu

- ❖ Today we are going to launch into our 7<sup>th</sup> Vagahau Niue language lesson for Term 3, but before we do, let's quickly recap on how to say – How are you?/Are you well? – **Malolō nakai a koe**. Let's break it down into three parts

|                             |   |              |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------|
| ✚ Malolō                    | – | Say after me |
| ✚ Malolō                    |   |              |
| ✚ nakai                     | – | Say after me |
| ✚ nakai                     |   |              |
| ✚ a koe                     | – | Say after me |
| ✚ a koe                     |   |              |
| ✚ Malolō nakai a koe        | – | Say after me |
| ✚ <b>Malolō nakai a koe</b> |   |              |

- ❖ **Sharleen:** Which brings us to our new instructional word for the day – Fanongo mai – ‘listen to me’ or ‘pay attention’!

|                      |   |              |
|----------------------|---|--------------|
| ✚ Fanongo mai        | – | Say after me |
| ✚ <b>Fanongo mai</b> |   |              |

- ❖ **Rina:** Now we thought that we would share with you a little about **Niue's Coconut Crab** called **Uga**! Or for those Latin speakers among us - **Birgus Latro Niuenses**. <http://www.niuetotal.com/diverse-uga-ing.htm>

- Uga inhabited Niue long before Captain Cook was attracted by locals using coconut crabs as an intimidating instrument of pain, instead of spears. These delicious things walk happily on the coastal roads of

Niue, without respecting the tourists and never giving way on roads for them.

- Ugas are born out at sea and later climb the cliffs searching for nice round ripe coconuts, and of course, a charming Miss Uga. They don't go very far on land, incursion in the forest for about 2 km only.
- Nobody knows for sure how many Ugas live in Niue. Certainly more than the number of Niueans. An estimative made in 1990 reached the conclusion that there are **181,000** coconut crabs in Niue, which is a very small number, especially taking in consideration that most Niueans love the taste of Ugas.

❖ Gaylene: So how big are they you ask!

- Coconut crabs can grow up to **4 kilos**, with Males in Niue having an average thoracic length of 32 mm and Females 29 mm.
- They can live up to **40 years** of age and this constitutes a problem because it will be very difficult to find a pot large enough to cook them.
- Once in the forest, they are territorial and they come back to the sea only to lay eggs.
  - 🚦 So what does it taste like?
- According to Tangata Niue, a Uga tastes like a mix of eating lobster with crab and fish covered with coconut cream, and having a drink that is full of coconut oil.